Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing a returnable package ~~(11)~~ having at least one deposit mark ~~(12)~~, in which a recyclable object on which a deposit is to be charged is provided with at least one first, irremovable security feature ~~(14)~~ in which at least one further irremovable security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied to the object on which a deposit is to be charged and which is provided with at least one first security feature ~~(14)~~, before, during and/or after the introduction of goods into the object on which a deposit is to be charged, the issue of said security feature being predefined by a control system that is not accessible to the manufacturer of the returnable package ~~(11)~~, and in which the deposit value of the deposit mark ~~(12)~~ is generated by means of the combination of the at least one first and further security feature ~~(14, 16)~~.

2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that, by means of the at least one first and further security feature ~~(14, 16)~~, at least one item of information for detecting the authenticity of the returnable package ~~(11)~~ for a material circulation system is applied.

3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, characterized in that, by means of the at least one first and further security feature ~~(14, 16)~~, at least one item of information for detecting the amount of the deposit is applied.

4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as an open or visually detectable feature.

5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the open security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a bar code, imprint of a deposit value, of a deposit logo or information that can be detected by touch.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a feature that can be read with aids.

7. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 3~~, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is formed as a machine-readable feature.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is at least partly transparent, translucent, phosphorescent, fluorescent, luminescent, UV-emitting and/or IR-emitting.

9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ comprises substances in the form of Stokes pigments and/or anti-Stokes pigments.

10. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ which fluorescent security pigments with a rapid decay constant is applied.

11. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one deposit mark ~~(12)~~ is generated from at least one item of open information and/or an item of information that can at least be read with aids and/or by machine.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one first security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is issued as a function of the at least one further security feature ~~(16, 14)~~ and vice versa.

13. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one security feature ~~(14)~~ and the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ are formed with at least partly coincident, complementary and/or superimposing items of information.

14. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is applied directly on or introduced directly in the object on which a deposit is to be charged.

15. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by means of direct printing on at least one part of the object on which a deposit is to be charged.

16. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 13~~, characterized in that at least one security feature ~~(14, 16)~~ is applied indirectly to the object on which a deposit is to be charged.

17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that the at least one first security feature ~~(14)~~ is applied on labels, closures of containers, can lids, decorative prints or crown corks.

18. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied in an inline process of the returnable package ~~(11)~~.

19. (Currently amended) A method of implementing a returnable package system, a returnable package ~~(11)~~ being produced by a method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 1

~~to 18~~, characterized in that the at least one security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by the marking unit ~~(23)~~.

20. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by a marking unit ~~(23)~~ which receives from a control unit ~~(22)~~ a clock pulse which is derived from the conveying speed of the returnable package ~~(11)~~.

21. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims~~ claim 19 ~~and 20~~, characterized in that each issue of a further security feature ~~(16)~~ is passed on to a data-processing system ~~(24)~~ and at least partly stored.

22. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 21~~, characterized in that a reader ~~(26)~~ is used to interrogate the security features ~~(14, 16)~~.

23. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 22~~, characterized in that a reader ~~(26)~~ is connected after a marking unit ~~(23)~~ in the conveying direction ~~(20)~~ of the object on which a deposit is to be charged, and in that, by means of the reader ~~(26)~~, the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ applied is registered and passed on to a data-processing system ~~(24)~~.

24. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1,

characterized in that at least the marking unit ~~(23)~~ for applying the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ and the reader ~~(26)~~ are positioned at a short distance from each other.

25. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 24, characterized in that the distance between the marking unit ~~(23)~~ and the reader ~~(26)~~, in particular in a filling plant, is dimensioned to be less than three meters.

26. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 25~~, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied without contact to the object on which a deposit is to be charged.

27. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 26~~, characterized in that the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied by the marking unit ~~(23)~~ by means of a marking medium having security pigments.

28. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 27~~, characterized in that the number, the volume and/or the mass of the security features ~~(16)~~ applied is stored in a memory element arranged in a container accommodating the marking medium.

29. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 27~~,

characterized in that the number, the volume and/or the mass of the security features ~~(16)~~ applied is stored in a data-processing system ~~(24)~~.

30. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 29~~, characterized in that a code is assigned to the container accommodating the marking medium for forming the at least one further security feature ~~(16)~~.

31. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in one of claims ~~29~~ 19 to 30, characterized in that, when the empty containers are replaced by full containers, data from the data-processing system ~~(24)~~ is transmitted from a filler ~~(36)~~ to a clearing authority ~~(37)~~.

32. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 30~~, characterized in that, when the empty containers are replaced by full containers, data from the data-processing system ~~(24)~~ is transmitted to a security provider ~~(38)~~.

33. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 30~~, characterized in that the data in the memory element of the containers returned to the security provider ~~(38)~~ is read and checked by the security provider ~~(38)~~.

34. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 19 ~~to 30~~, characterized in that a requirement for full containers for the marking medium from the filler ~~(36)~~ and/or the requested number of full containers for the marking medium from the filler ~~(36)~~ are registered and stored by a security provider ~~(38)~~.

35. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~one of claims~~ claim 28 ~~to 34~~, characterized in that at least the data transmitted directly by the filler ~~(36)~~ and at least the data passed on by the filler ~~(36)~~ to a clearing authority ~~(37)~~ are checked by a security provider ~~(38)~~ by means of a plausibility check.

36. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 35, characterized in that the plausibility check is carried out by an EDP-based management system ~~(44)~~.

37. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~either of claims~~ claim 35 ~~and 36~~, characterized in that, during the plausibility check, the number of further security features ~~(16)~~ issued and/or the volume and/or mass of the marking medium produced and filled into containers, the production of the containers and/or the identification and/or the number of control pulses from a control unit ~~(22)~~ for driving the marking unit ~~(23)~~ are checked.

38. (Currently amended) A returnable package having at least one deposit mark ~~(12)~~ which is produced by a method in which a recyclable object on which a deposit is to be charged is

provided with at least one first, irremovable security feature ~~(14)~~, in which at least one further irremovable security feature ~~(16)~~ is applied to the object on which a deposit is to be charged and which is provided with at least one first security feature ~~(14)~~, before, during and/or after the introduction of goods into the object on which a deposit is to be charged, the issue of said security feature being predefined by a control system that is not accessible to the manufacturer of the returnable package ~~(11)~~, and in which the deposit value of the deposit mark ~~(12)~~ is generated by means of the combination of the at least one first and further security feature ~~(14, 16)~~.